

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The system and method of the present invention is intended for use in the transmission of packets comprised of multiple flits that are transmitted over one or more hops, i.e., crossing one or more agents, to arrive at a destination agent. In this regard, an agent is a processor or other VLSI chip such as a memory controller or input/output (I/O) controller connected in a multiprocessing network or fabric. As shown in FIG. 1, which diagrammatically illustrates a network with dual processor nodes and particularly illustrates transmission of from agent 10 to agent 12, a flit must traverse hops between agents 14, 16, 18 and 20. In the drawing, agents 16 and 18 are directly connected together.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

When a sequence number mismatch is detected at the receiving agent, it then signals the sending agent of a failure. This means the sending agent is required to hang on to at least one extra flit in a replay buffer to be able to resend the dropped flit since an error ~~isn't~~ is not detected until after the subsequent flit is sent. In this regard, whether a copy of the flit is written into a separate replay buffer or merely retained in a memory location is largely a matter of semantics in that one of ordinary skill in the art can manipulate the flit to accomplish the retention and resending of the flit and many alternative types of manipulation ~~is~~ are within the scope of the invention. Importantly, the amount of storage required in each agent is quite small since the re-send operation is at an agent-to-agent level, not sender to receiver. In addition, a time out mechanism is avoided since every hop on the transmission path requires either an acknowledgement, or error indication. Such communication can be arranged to consume only a single wire since it is between connected agents in the network.